

San Diego DX Club Bulletin

November 2016



NOVEMBER PROGRAM

MEDICAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR DXPEDITIONS

BY ARNIE SCHATZ N6HC

MEETING NOTICE:

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2016

JOIN US AT THE SIZZLER, 3755 Murphy Canyon Road,

San Diego, CA 92123 (858) 278-6988

SOCIAL HOUR, 5:00 P.M. DINNER, 5:30 P.M.

MEETING, 6:30 P.M.

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From the Prez . . .

Howard, W6HDG

The holiday season is upon us.

Since we don't have a December

Bulletin, let me take this opportunity

to wish everyone the happiest

of holidays. As a reminder, we will

be having a meeting November 23, the evening before Thanksgiving. So get

out of kitchen prep work and join your pals. I'm really looking forward to the

presentation by Arnie Shatz, MD, N6HC on the medical aspects of DXpedi-

tions. He has terrific stories.

Blowin' in the wind

Fortunately in Southern California we don't have to deal much with snow or

ice, and rarely with lightning. Wind is a different story. As I sit here writing on

November 9, my DB18 SteppIR and the MA770 tubular tower itself are swaying

around in 18+mph gusty winds. Not very high winds but it still looks really

scary. Many of us have fixed antennas so wind is something you simply live

through as you say a little prayer and cross your fingers.

I hadn't thought too much about wind when I decided to buy my very first

tower 2 years ago. I bought a motorized unit from US Tower just in case a big

storm hit. And I bought tubular since I wanted to reduce the radio tower look.

But I had no idea there would be so much tower sway at lower wind speeds

with a tubular tower. When I asked US Tower about it, they said "that is the

way it is supposed to behave – just lower it". I therefore find myself lowering

and raising the tower (at least partially) a few times a month – far more than I

had expected would be necessary. It may not be necessary but better safe

than sorry.

I know that some members have anemometers or full blown weather stations

and that one member reports having an automatic lowering mechanism on his

tower if the anemometer hits certain speeds. Now that is cool.

I don't have the luxury of that, so I use a couple of free apps to give me a

heads-up about impending winds. I thought I would share them with you here.

You likely have your own favorites, but I have come to like two helpful sites.



Accuweather™ Alert at <https://alert.accuweather.com/accualert/index> sends e-mails with all severe weather forecasts from the National Weather Service. Signing up is free and easy. They will report winds, flooding, lightning and other conditions. Here is the type of automatic email you will receive, typically just once or twice a month:

 **AccuWeather**

SEVERE WEATHER ALERT

[Change My Email Options](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

Your Severe Weather Watches and Warnings
POWAY, CA
[Your Radar](#) | [Current Conditions](#) | [15-Day](#)
URGENT - WEATHER MESSAGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SAN DIEGO
CA
352 AM PST TUE NOV 8 2016

...PERIODS OF GUSTY EAST WINDS FOR TONIGHT INTO THURSDAY FOR THE VALLEYS OF SAN DIEGO AND RIVERSIDE COUNTIES AND INLAND ORANGE COUNTY...

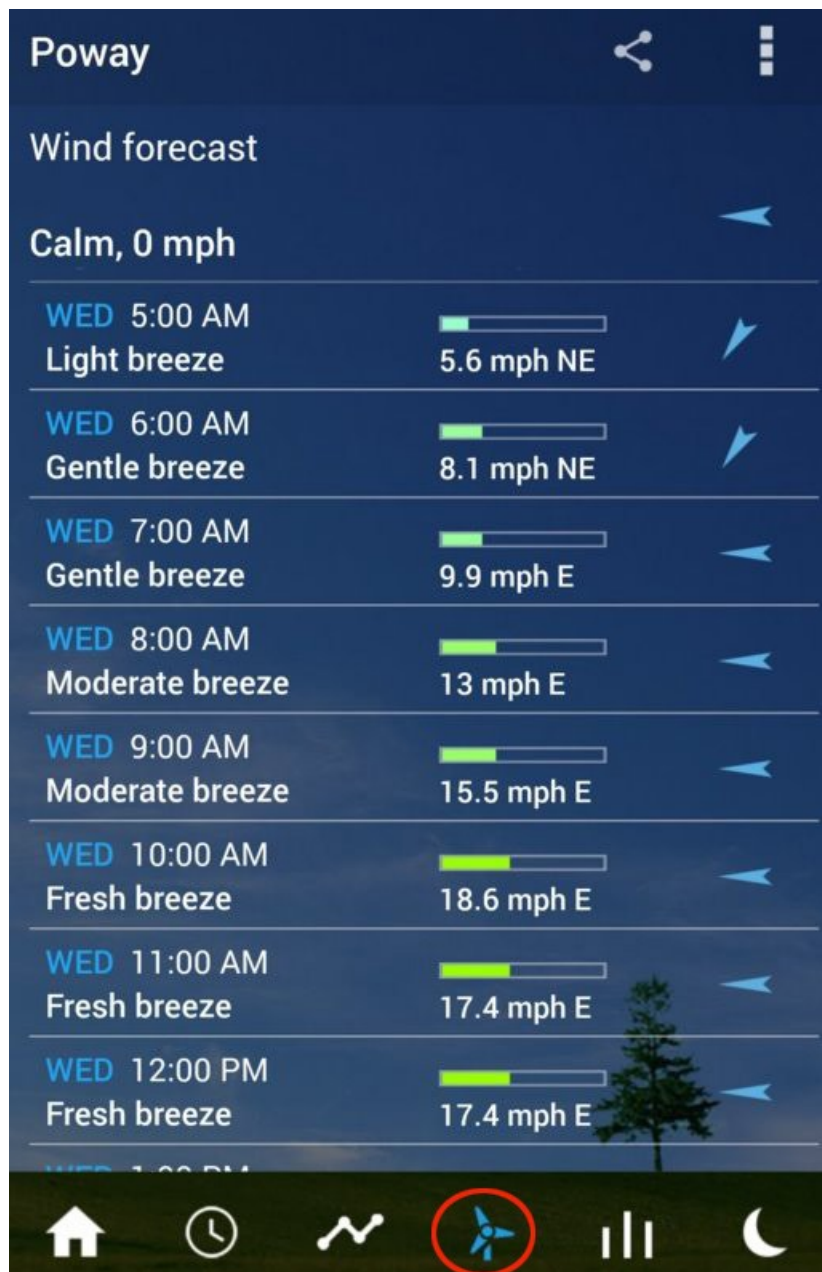
.SURFACE HIGH PRESSURE OVER THE WESTERN PLAINS INTO NEW MEXICO WILL STRENGTHEN THE EASTERLY OFFSHORE FLOW ACROSS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRINGING PERIODS OF GUSTY EAST WINDS FOR THE INLAND VALLEYS AND INLAND ORANGE COUNTY FOR TONIGHT INTO THURSDAY. THE STRONGEST AND MOST WIDESPREAD WINDS ARE EXPECTED ON WEDNESDAY. ...WIND ADVISORY IN EFFECT FROM 7 PM THIS EVENING TO 7 AM PST THURSDAY...



Download on the App Store

Download our all-new app for iPhone® and iPad®.

Once I know that winds are headed our way, I use the free Android App called Transparent Clock and Weather by MACHAPP Software Ltd. which gives you a 3 day hour-by-hour wind forecast for your exact location. Click on the wind turbine icon. It has been amazingly accurate and helpful – especially within 24 hours of an event. I'm not sure if this app is available for iPhone but the iPhone Accuweather App has hourly wind speeds, albeit not presented as clearly as shown below for TWC.



Transparent Clock and Weather – MACHAPP Software Ltd.

I hope you find this info helpful. If you have other weather apps or tips, please chime in on our club's Yahoo forum, <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/sddxcnews/info>. Newer members may not know about our Yahoo forum. Please sign up for this group as it does contain some very good info.

73 and Gud DX,

Howard, **W6HDG**



VP Report

Mike, NA6MB

October program

Moon Bounce

by Paul Chominski, WA6PY



Paul talked about moon bounce from two different perspectives.

First was technical: what do I need to receive an echo, and later a QSO, from the moon? Antennas, power amps, low

noise receive amps, etc. There are no propagation changes, just where the moon is located in the sky.

Therefore, low noise in everything is really important! Paul uses mostly CW, but many moon bounce operators are starting to use WSJT modes. He has made a few SSB contacts as well.

The second aspect was more social. Elmering, making schedules and working contests. Paul has had some real fun in this unique mode. Moon bounce operators use first contact with a new station on a new band as a metric similar to DXCC on HF.

Paul gave a great presentation. Hope you enjoyed it.

Upcoming program November 23

Medical Considerations for DXpeditions

by Arnie Schatz, N6HC



Arnie will address medical considerations for DXpedition team members: before and during the trip.

Arnie was licensed I at 13 and has been an ARRL member for more than 50 years. He was first a Navy doctor (as a Lieutenant Commander) and later had a private practice in Orange County. He retired in 2001.

Arnie is a very accomplished DXer and has earned WAS (6 bands, SSB, CW, RTTY), DXCC #1 Honor Roll, DXCC (8 bands, SSB, CW, RTTY), WAZ (CW & SSB), WAC, WPX (SSB and CW), and VUCC.

He was a team member of ten major DXpeditions: K7C-Kure atoll (2005), 3B7C- St. Brandon Island (2007), TX5C- Clipperton Island (2008), K4M-Midway Island (2009), T31A- Kanton atoll, Central Kiribati (2011), T32C- Christmas Island, Eastern Kiribati (2011), NH8S-Swains Island (2012), T33A-Banaba (2013), FT5ZM- Amsterdam Island (2014) and TX3X-Chesterfield Island (2015).

Arnie always has a great program! Hope you can come out to see him.

Mike, NA6MB

Secretary/Treasurer Reports

Randy, KQ6RS



Meeting Minutes, SDDXC Club, October 26, 2016

At 6:30 pm the meeting was called to order. 35 members were in attendance as well as one guest, Tim Everingham, N6CUX.

We had no new members to vote on.

Old business – the September meeting minutes and Treasurer's report were approved.

New business – the holiday party will be held on December 18th from 12:00-4:30 pm at Fiddlers Green on Shelter Island where the party has been held the past two years.

Mike Binder, NA6MB announced that there is an update to LoTW from Version 2.2 to Version 2.3. However, you have to download and install it. It can't be updated from within the application.

From 6:37 we had our roundtable discussions.

At 7:25 Paul Chominski, WA6PY gave a presentation on Moon Bounce (EME).

At 8:42 the meeting was adjourned.

Treasurer's Report

Income for October \$20 (memberships)

Expenses for October \$12.32 (October speaker's dinner)

Statement Balance on 10/28/2016 \$8,227.51

Randy, KQ6RS

SDDXC RESULTS 2016 ARRL DX SSB CONTEST

CLASS	CALL	SCORE	QSO'S	MLTS	FINISH
MS HP	PJ2T (K6AM, OH6RX)	8,195,916	7,895	349	#3 World
M2	NX6T (N6KI, KK6NON, N6CY, KB7V, W6JBR, NN6X, N6EEG, AF6WF, K6KAL, W2PWS, ops)	1,749,384	1,630	364	#1 SW Div, #13 US/VE
SO LP	WN6K	665,796	998	226	#1 W6, #2 SW Div, #14 US/VE
SA LP	KK6NON	457,659	736	211	#1 SW Div, #2 W6
SO LP	W6JBR	38,637	159	81	#2 SDG,
SA HP	N5ZO	111,540	260	143	#1 SDG

SDDXC TOP 10 (EXPANDED VERSION) CURRENT COUNTRIES CONFIRMED ON CW

11/16	11/15	CALL	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG	11/16	11/15	CALL	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	W6YA	338	371	371	-1	11.	13.	W6YI	330	327	340	+7
2.	2.	N6CW	338	366	366	-1	12.	11.	NN6K	330	334	334	-1
3.	4.	K9RHY	338	349	349	-	13.	12.	K0XB	327	337	337	-
4.	3.	K6AM	338	348	348	-1	14.	14.	WN6K	319	330	339	+2
5.	5.	K6GAK	336	357	357	-1	15.	15.	N6VS	300	304	310	-1
6.	6.	N0RR	336	351	351	-1	16.	-	K5OA	299	306	314	.NEW
7.	8.	N7CW	335	336	336	-1	17.	17.	W6VNR	299	299	303	+16
8.	7.	K6XT	334	348	352	-2	18.	16.	WB6BFG	297	300	305	-
9.	10.	W6YOO	333	340	340	+2	19.	19.	NA6L	289	290	297	+21
10.	9.	K6ZH	332	344	345	-1	20.	18.	AD6ZJ	275	276	283	+1

We've expanded the CW Top 10 to include the top 20 players. All the action is in the right hand column this time where we see some very nice jumps. K5OA's entrance onto the list actually represents a gain of 41 over his last report many years ago. Since no one in the Club ever worked P5 on CW, the number to hit on CW now stands at 338.

Each month, we will publish a top ten list for one of the lesser-recognized but hard won categories. Coming up next, 10/40M and 80/20M. Please send me your totals for each band and mode throughout the year and you will be listed in coming months. Use the convenient form at <http://www.sddxc.org> or bring 'em to the meeting.

PLEASE NOTE: Kingman Reef, KH5K is no longer a current entity effective March 29. Make sure all future reports reflect its move from current to deleted status. If your latest report was before that date, I will assume you have KH5K worked and have automatically reduced all your C-D totals by one.

John, K6AM



San Diego DX Club Holiday Party December 18, 2016 Noon-4:30PM



**Holiday Party Grand Prize
Pro 7 Headset
Donated by Heil Sound**



Must be present on December 18 for all prizes

**The 2016 SDDXC Holiday Party will be held
at Fiddler's Green on December 18, at 12 PM**

Please RSVP by 12/12/2016 to: <http://SDDXC.rsvpify.com>

Please follow instructions on the web site to select an entree and soup or salad.

RSVP is required (need number of guests and entree/salad-soup choice for each)

We will once again have exclusive use of the entire restaurant for the members of our club and our guests. They are great hosts and have quality food, great acoustics (where you can talk comfortably in a normal voice), and free parking.

The door prize drawing will blow you away this year!

The meal with beverage (soft drinks, coffee, etc.) cost is once again \$27 per person and the club will pay $\frac{1}{2}$ of the cost per person. Therefore, attendees only have to contribute \$13.50 each.

Come prepared with cash or credit card to cover \$13.50 per person plus any alcohol or special orders.

There will also be an optional gift exchange, so bring a \$15 to \$20 gift per person in order to join in on the fun.

Meet & greet at 12 PM, meal service at 1 PM, gift exchange 2-3 PM ending by 4:30 PM.

Fiddlers Green Restaurant - Up Stairs

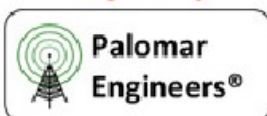
2760 Shelter Island Drive San Diego, CA 92106

<http://goo.gl/maps/KZhS0>

<http://fiddlersgreensandiego.com/>



Other Holiday Party Prize Sponsors



Clear Signal Products, LLC.
"The Coaxman"
www.coaxman.com



The DX Store
www.dxstore.com



From the Editor

Bob, K9RHY



Remembering the Canal Zone (KZ5) and the World before Smart Phones and the Internet

There was a time – not *quite* in the distant past – when the Panama Canal Zone was a separate DXCC counter AND there were no smart phones. And not just before smart phones, but even before there were *any* cell phones. Further putting this time into historical perspective, there was *NO internet*. There was no email and QSL cards could be (snail) mailed with a \$0.03 stamp. (My keyboard doesn't even have a cent sign (¢), so I had to enter Alt+0162 to generate one. We have come so far. I guess.)

That ancient time was the early 1960's. And, like some other SDDXC members, I was there and I remember those times. And I remember WRL Globe Kings, AM phone, crystal control, heterodynes and phone patches. Join me in some nostalgia.



In 1959, I graduated from the 8th grade and was getting ready for high school. I had my ham ticket and was interested in so many things ham radio. One of the locals, a DXing giant in my 13 year old eyes, was George Wernett, W9SFF. George lived with his sister and a pet monkey (more on the monkey in a bit). George used the phonetics "Silver Fox Fox" and sometimes "Silver Fox Fur" and I thought he was great. I washed his car periodically – no charge – after bicycling to his house a few miles away from my family's

apartment on Chicago's west side.

In the early 1960's, the Panama Canal Zone (KZ5) was a separate DXCC entity. The Zone was an unincorporated territory of the United States from 1903 to 1979, centered on the canal and surrounded by Panama. The history of the US's acquisition of the Canal Zone (a 10 mile wide strip in the center of the Republic of Panama) is an interesting story, but beyond this narrative).

The US bought the Zone from Panama for \$10M plus an annual payment of \$250,000.00. A pretty good deal as it worked out.

The armed forces of the United States played an integral part of the history of the Canal Zone and Panama. With the construction of the Panama Canal, completed in 1914, the US Military assumed an important role. The governor of the Canal Zone was always a Major General in the US Army. The head engineer, head of the Marine Bureau and many of the heads of various departments in the Health Bureau and Gorgas Hospital were military officers.

The US Coastal Artillery came into its own when fortifications were built for the emplacement of long-range artillery to protect the Panama Canal. Fort Randolph, Fort Sherman and Fort DeLesseps on the Atlantic side and Fort Amador and Fort Kobbe on the Pacific side housed the biggest guns in the US arsenal for the defense of the Canal.

The US Navy had major installations at Coco Solo, Rodman and the 15th Naval District.

Air power was projected from France Field, Albrook, Howard and many auxiliary air fields in and around the Canal Zone.

Hence, KZ5 call signs were the order of the day. Indeed, there were hundreds of KZ5 calls issued over the years. I have a copy of the "Call Book of Amateur Radio Stations in the Canal Zone" dated July 1, 1960 that lists 165 different calls.

So we had a lot of US service people serving in the Canal Zone with very limited means of communicating with friends and loved ones back home and very limited financial resources. Remember, no cell phones, no internet and limited land-line telephone communication that used AT&T Long Lines at a price that made a telephone call to the States prohibitively expensive. So to save scarce cash (military salaries in those days were far from generous) the Phone-Patch became a cost-effective means of communicating back home.

It was pretty much standard practice to run Phone-Patches for service men and missionaries overseas back home to the USA in those days. The Phone Patch connected to the radio transmitter and receiver so the person on the telephone could speak to whoever was talking on the radio. Phone-Patches are not common today, but in 1960 – to a PFC in the Canal Zone - they were a lifeline.



Phone Patches to and from the Canal Zone were W9SFF's specialty. Going to George's QTH and watching him run patches for hour after hour was sublime. He had a Hallicrafters SX-101 receiver and a monster Globe King transmitter that ran 500 watts of plate-modulated AM phone to a three element 10 meter monobander about 10 feet above the roof, rotated using the "Armstrong" method.

The pipe upon which the antenna was mounted ran from above the roof through a hole in the roof and into the ham shack. To change the beam direction, you took hold of the pipe and turned it with your hands. George had his sister trained to do that, but he let me swing the beam by myself on occasion.

Living in the shack was George's pet monkey, a critter that his fans in the Canal Zone sent him as a gift. I don't remember the monkey's name, but it was a unique pet.

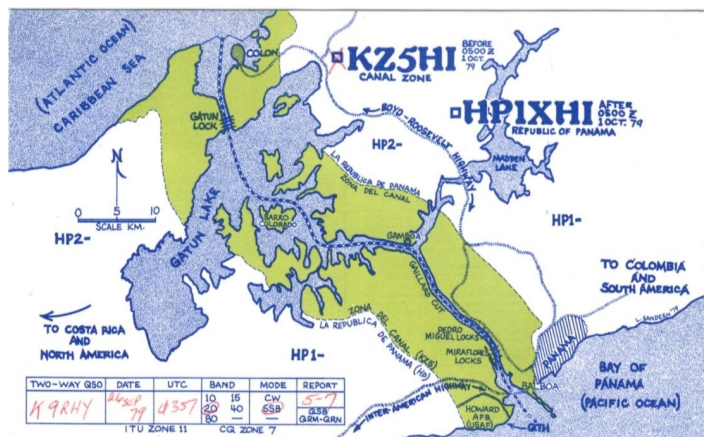
George used crystal control so Canal Zone hams looking for patches could always find him. I remember so clearly announcing "W nine Silver Fox Fox, crystal control 28,894 kilocycles standing by for phone patch traffic" (before the Kilo Hertz became ubiquitous).

On many afternoons during the summer, George let me sit in front of his D-104 microphone at the W9SFF operating position and echo his announcement "W nine Silver Fox Fox, crystal control 28,894 kilocycles standing by for phone patch traffic". It was unforgettable and part of the tapestry of DXing experiences I have been so fortunate to weave over the years.

George became a Silent Key a number of years ago at a time when phone patches were being replaced by lower priced long distance telephone rates. But the memories remain to this day.

The Panama Canal Zone reverted to Panama in 1979 and went on the "Deleted" list at that time.

Thanks, George.



BTW: This being the last SDDXC Bulletin of 2016, I'd like to offer my best wishes to the Membership for a wonderful upcoming Holiday Season. I have enjoyed your readership and comments and look forward to resuming this publication in the New Year. I also hope to make it back to San Diego. Our three children live in San Francisco and we will be with them for Thanksgiving. I hope a trip to SoCal is in the cards soon.

Before pulling the switch, my thanks and high praise to our monthly Bulletin content contributors: Howard, Mike, Randy and John. You guys make this editor's job easy.

Very 73 and all the best,

Bob, K9RHY